



FEMA



Prepared by
Jennifer McNatt

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, December 27, 2018

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today

- **Slight risk of severe thunderstorms from SE TX through the S half of LA; damaging winds are the main threat, hail and isolated tornadoes possible.**
 - Strong to severe thunderstorms possible across SE AR, the rest of LA and further back into SE TX the first part of the day.
- **Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across much of SE TX and LA, especially SE LA.**
- **Major winter storm expected for NM beginning tonight; major travel impacts are likely.**

Friday - Saturday

- **Major winter storm expected over NM; significant snowfall accumulations (from around 4 inches to well over 1 foot) will impact many areas of the state, especially E NM. Major travel impacts are likely with road closures.**
- **Snow over NM should be coming to an end on Saturday, but travel impacts are likely to remain.**

Sunday - Monday

- **No significant weather expected Sunday.**
- **By Monday, another round of snow is possible over NM and strong to severe storms/heavy rain is possible over AR, LA and E TX.**

River Flooding

- **Minor to moderate river flooding is occurring or expected over S & E OK and E TX. Mostly agricultural impacts are expected with the moderate flooding in OK.**
- **Minor river flooding is occurring or expected over LA and S AR.**
- **Additional rain (mostly today and Monday) may lead to additional river points in flood over AR and LA, with mostly minor flooding expected.**

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 27, 2018 – Dec 31, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms	SETX, S LA				AR, LA, ETX
	SETX, SE AR, rest of LA				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	SE LA				AR, LA, ETX
Winter Weather	NM	NM	NM		NM
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	S & E OK, ETX	S & E OK, ETX	ETX, LA, SAR	ETX, LA, SAR	ETX, LA, SAR
	SAR, LA	SAR, LA			

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

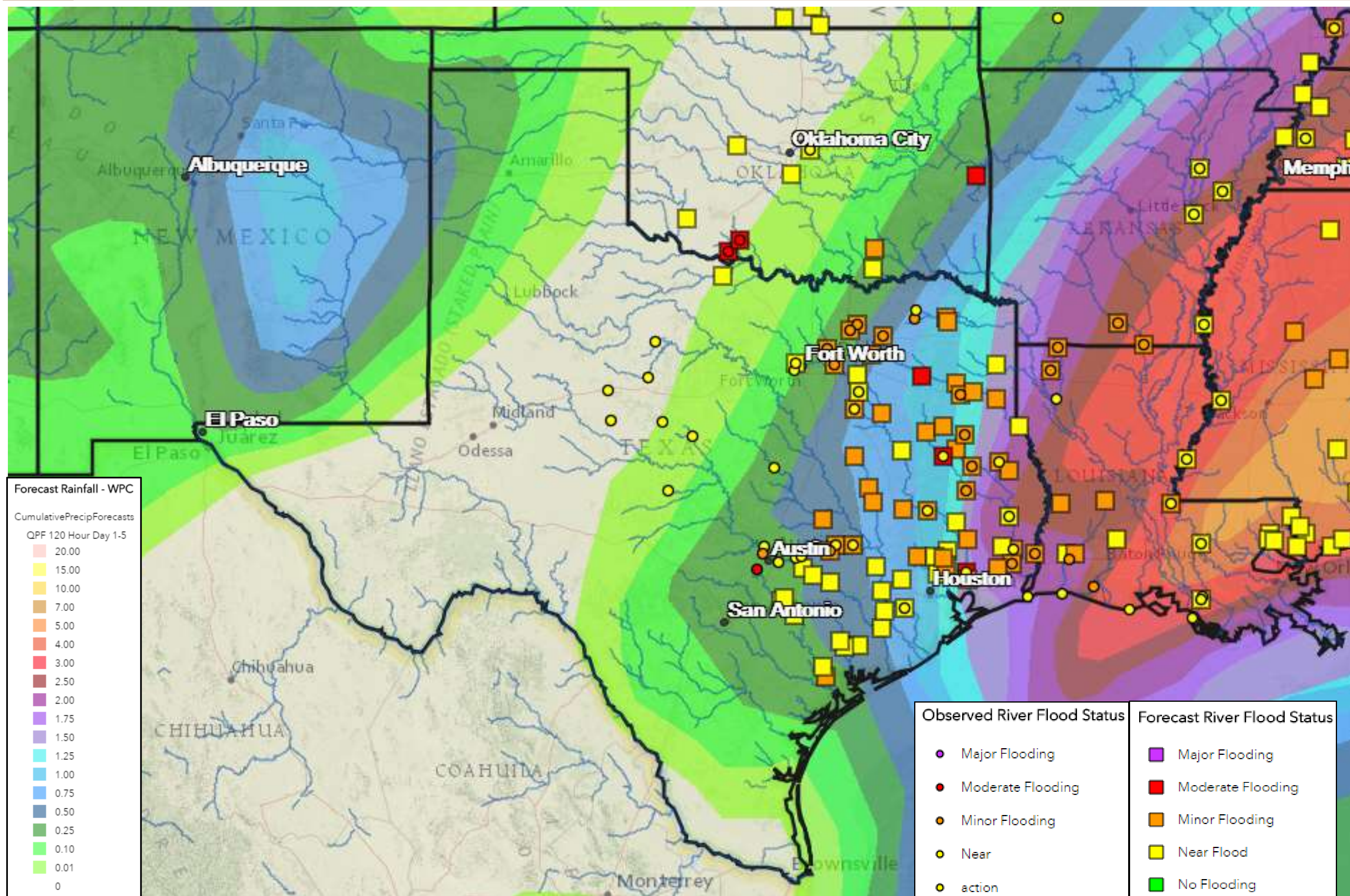
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Minor to moderate river flooding is occurring or expected over S & E OK & ETX.

Mostly agricultural impacts are expected with the moderate flooding in OK.

Minor river flooding is occurring or expected over LA and S AR.

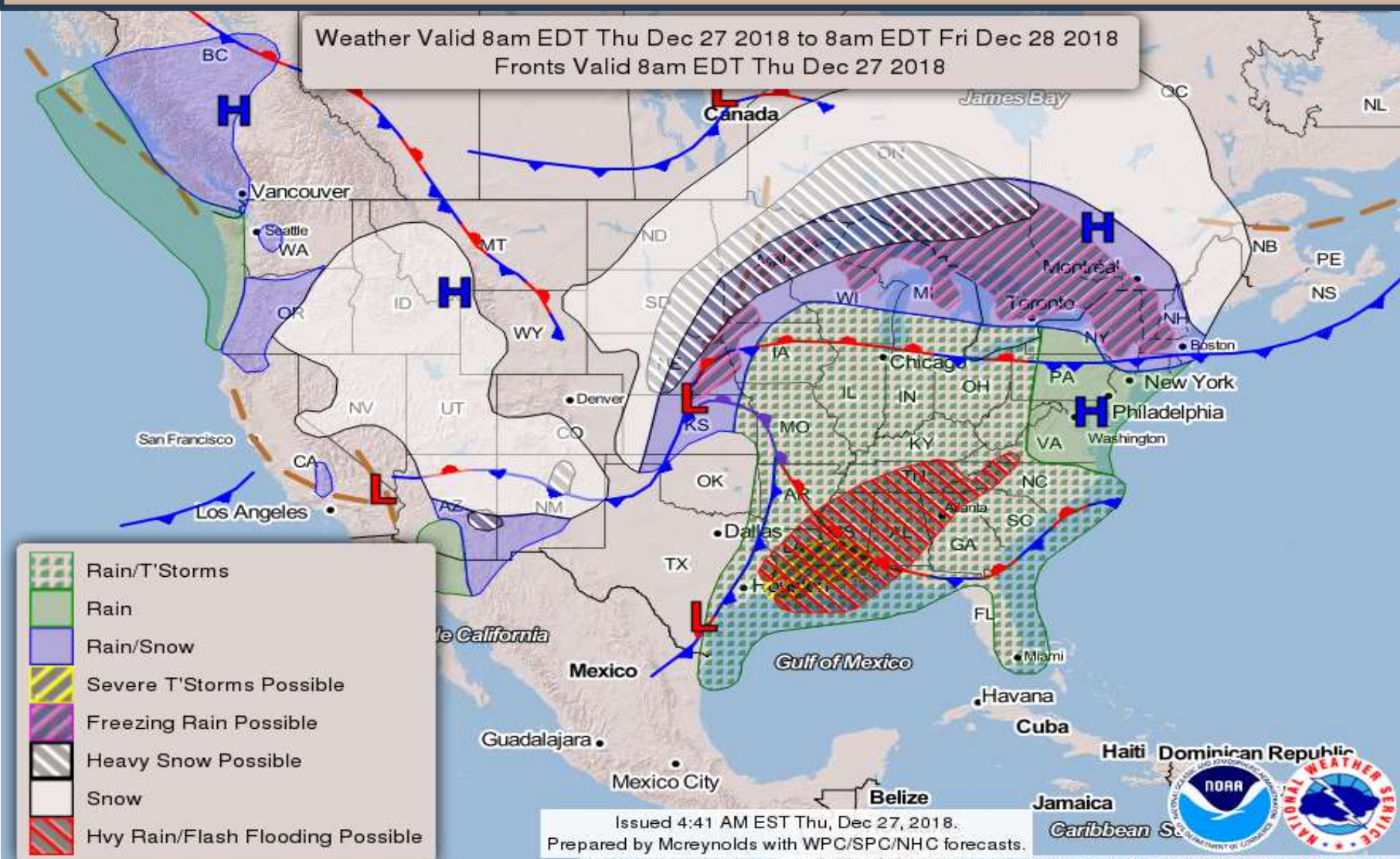
Additional rain (mostly today and Monday) may lead to additional river points in flood over AR and LA, with mostly minor flooding expected.

Today's Weather



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Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



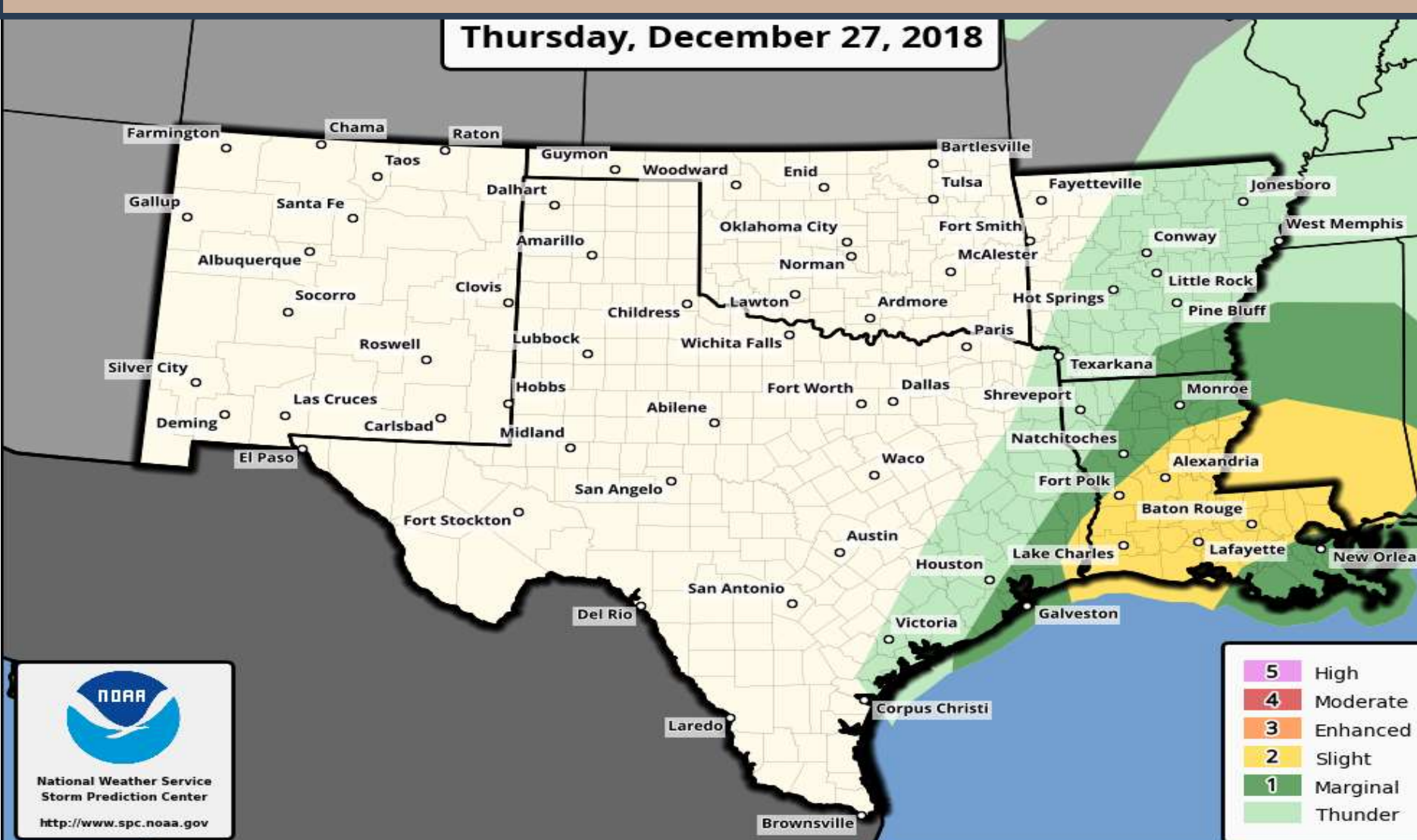
Slight risk of severe thunderstorms from SE TX through the S half of LA; damaging winds are the main threat, hail and isolated tornadoes possible.

Strong to severe thunderstorms possible across SE AR, the rest of LA and further back into SE TX the first part of the day.

Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across much of SE TX and LA, especially SE LA.

Major winter storm expected for NM beginning tonight; major travel impacts are likely.

Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Graphic Created

Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

Tornado watches remain in effect over SE TX and portions of LA.

Flash Flood Watches are in effect over SE LA through late tonight.

Winter Storm Watches are now in effect for much of NM this evening through late Friday night. Winter Storm Warnings / Winter Weather Advisories over the Panhandles will end midday.

Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

Winter Weather



Graphic Created

Tomorrow's Weather

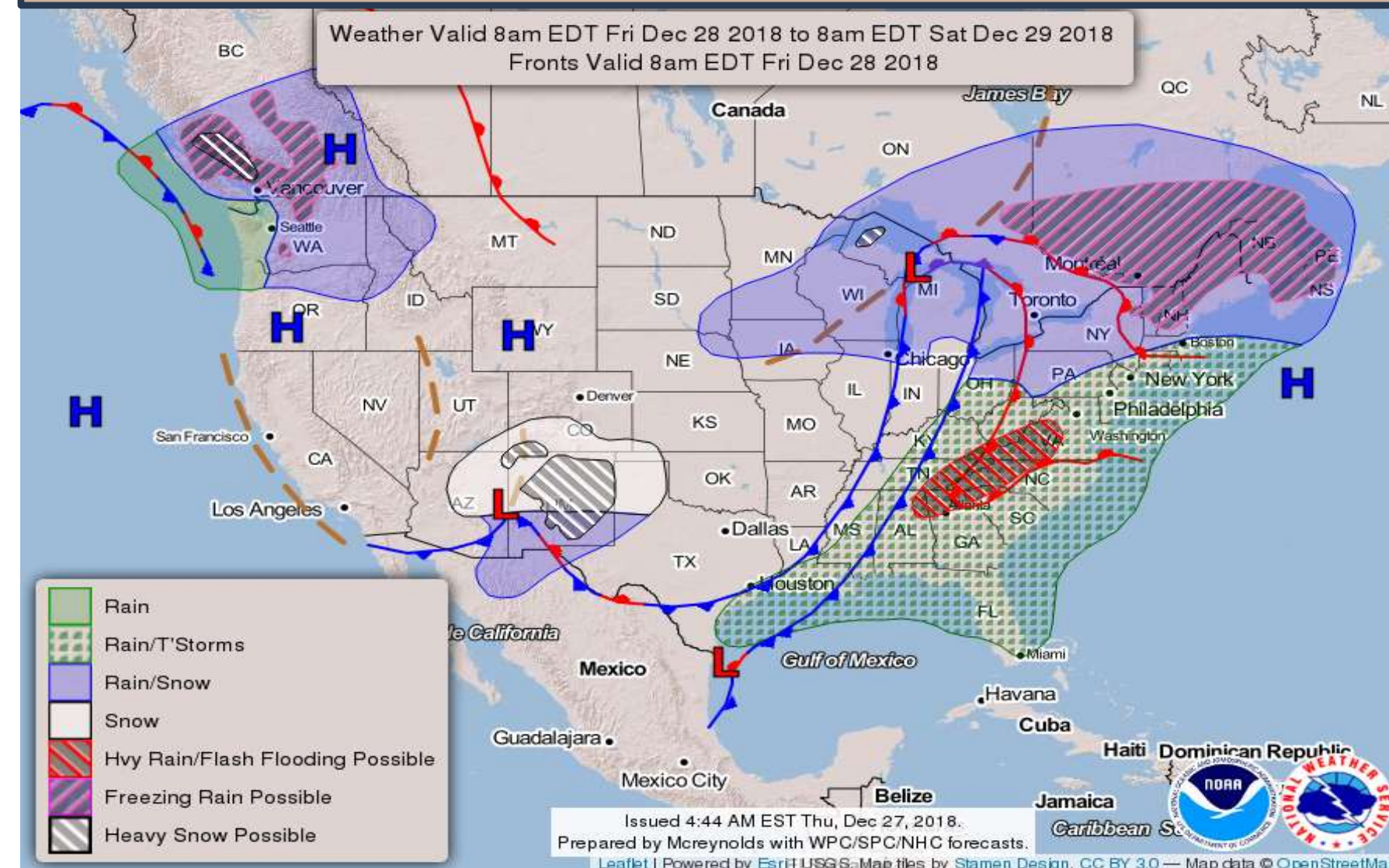


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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

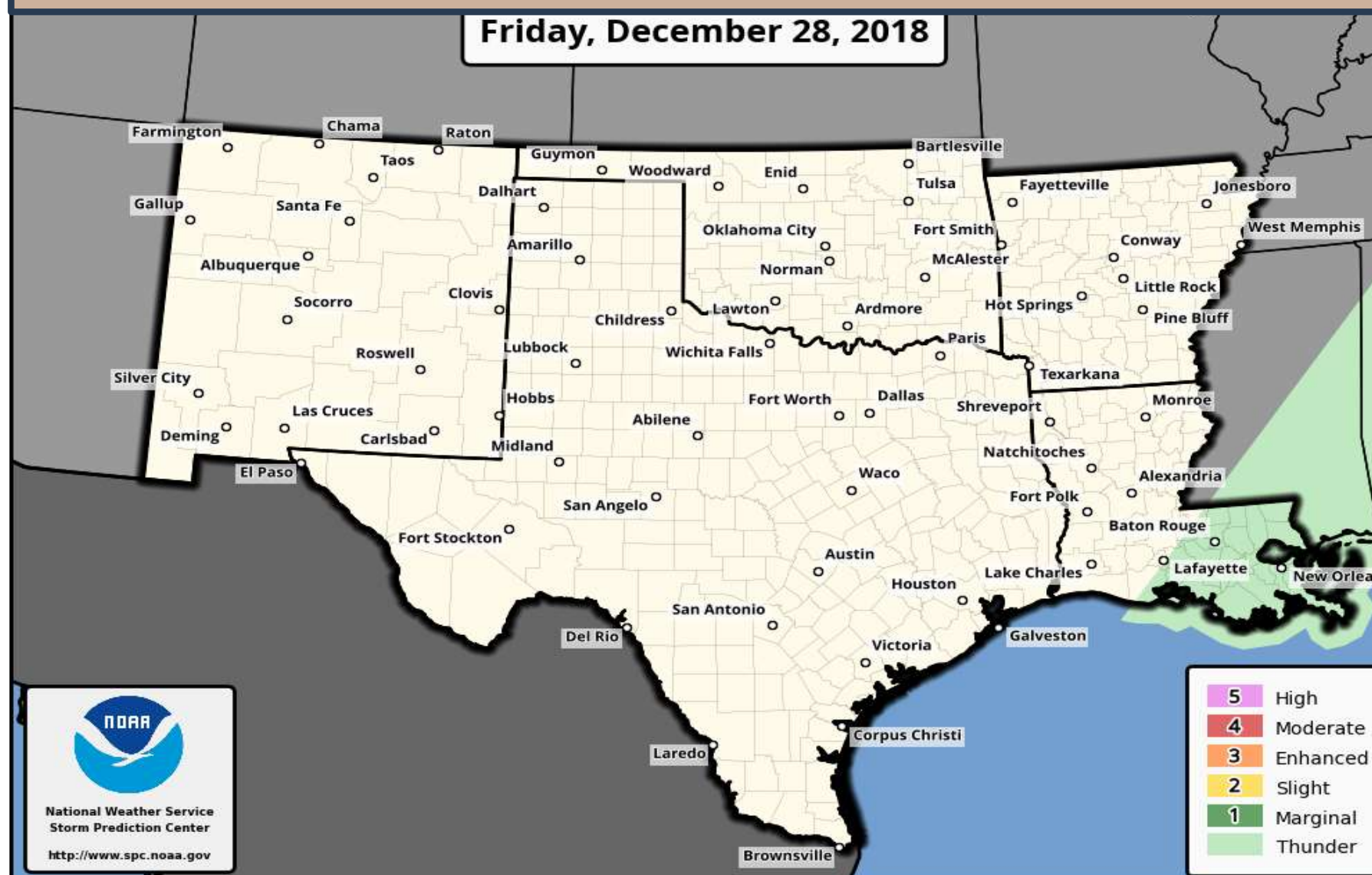
Major winter storm expected over NM; significant snowfall accumulations (from around 4 inches to well over 1 foot) will impact many areas of the state, especially E NM. Major travel impacts are likely with road closures.



Graphic Created
December 27th, 2018
6:41 AM CST

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created
December 27th, 2018
AM CST

Saturday's Weather

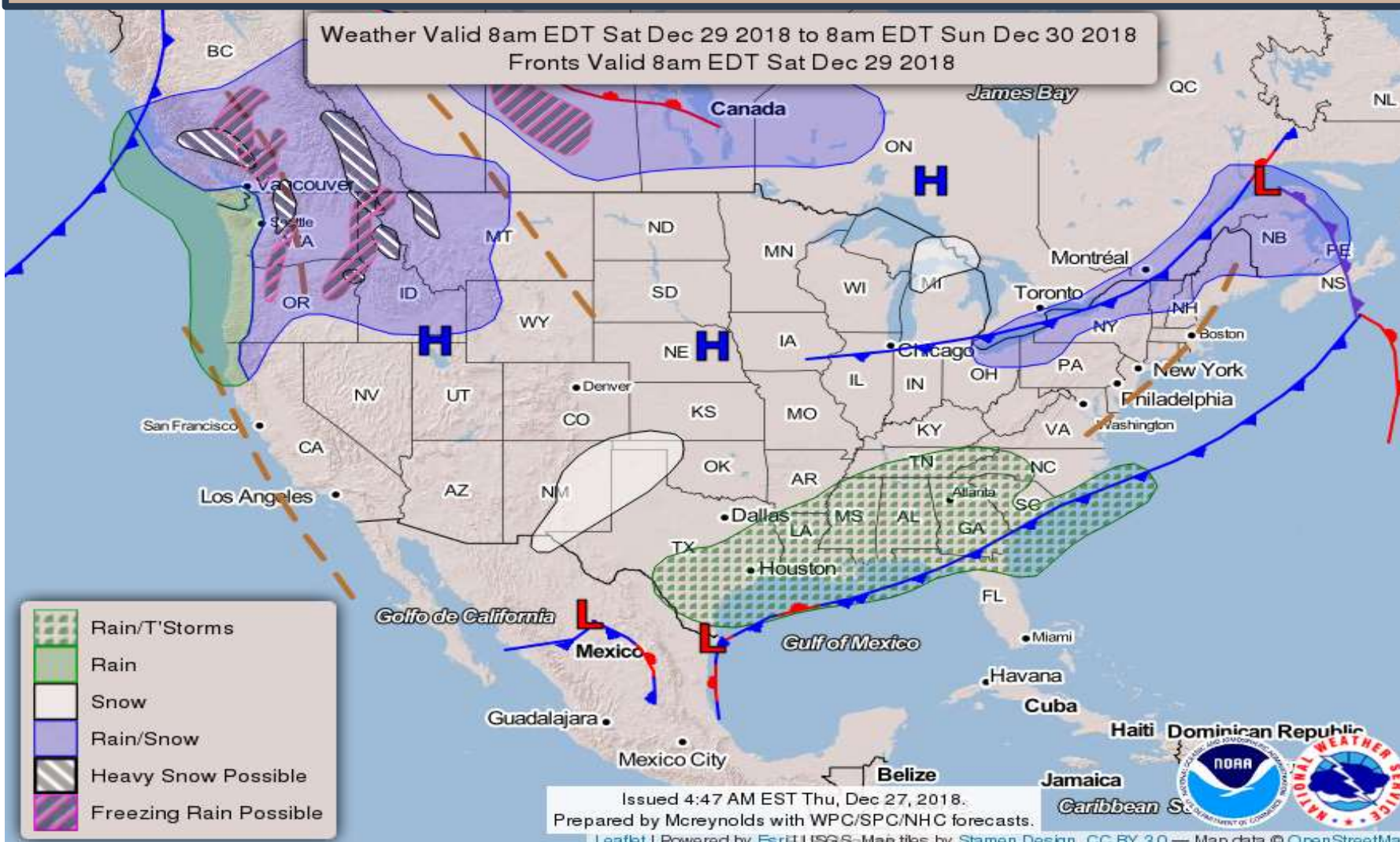


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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

Snow over NM should be coming to an end, but travel impacts are likely to remain.

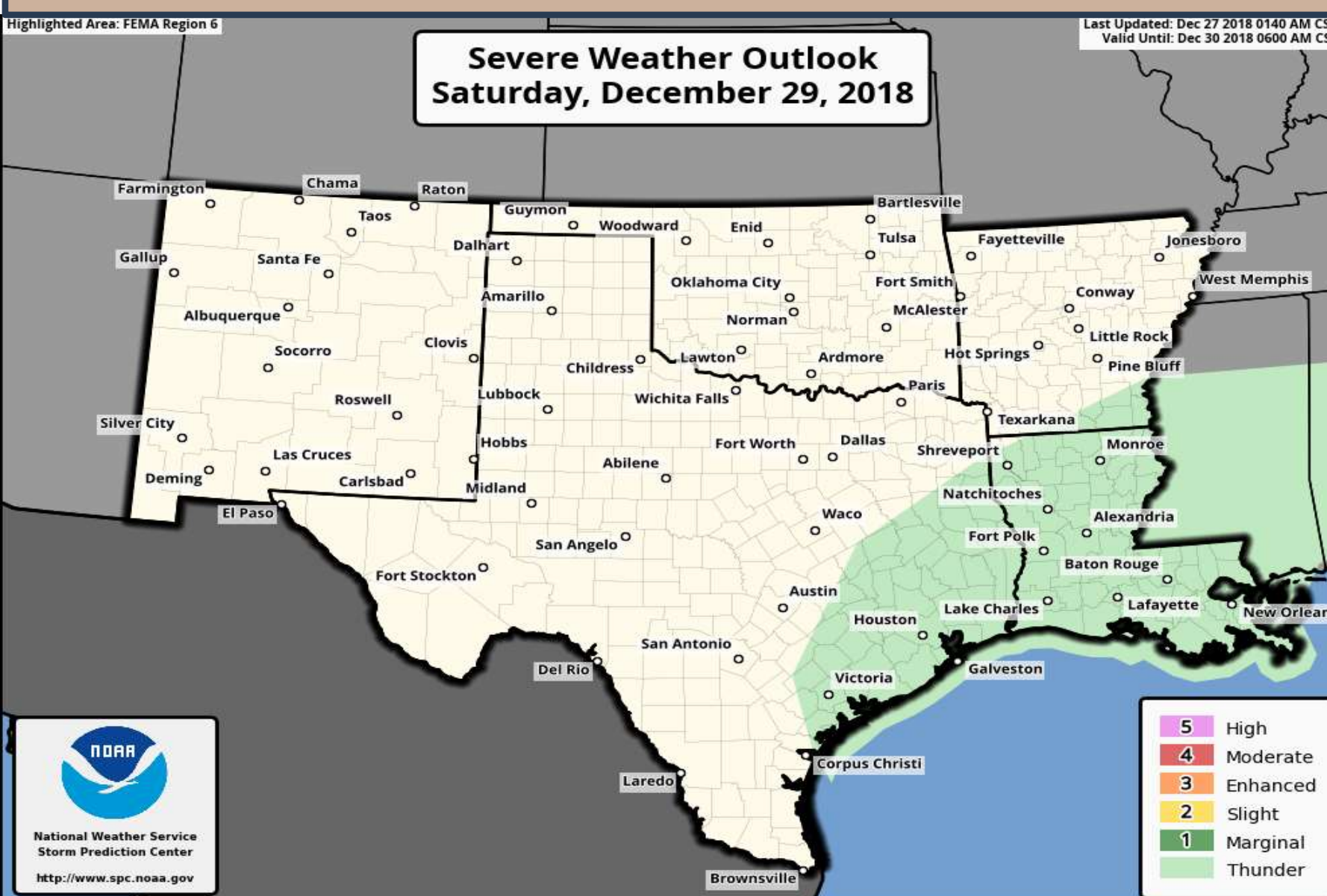


Graphic Created
December 27th, 2018



Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created
December 27th, 2018
AM CST

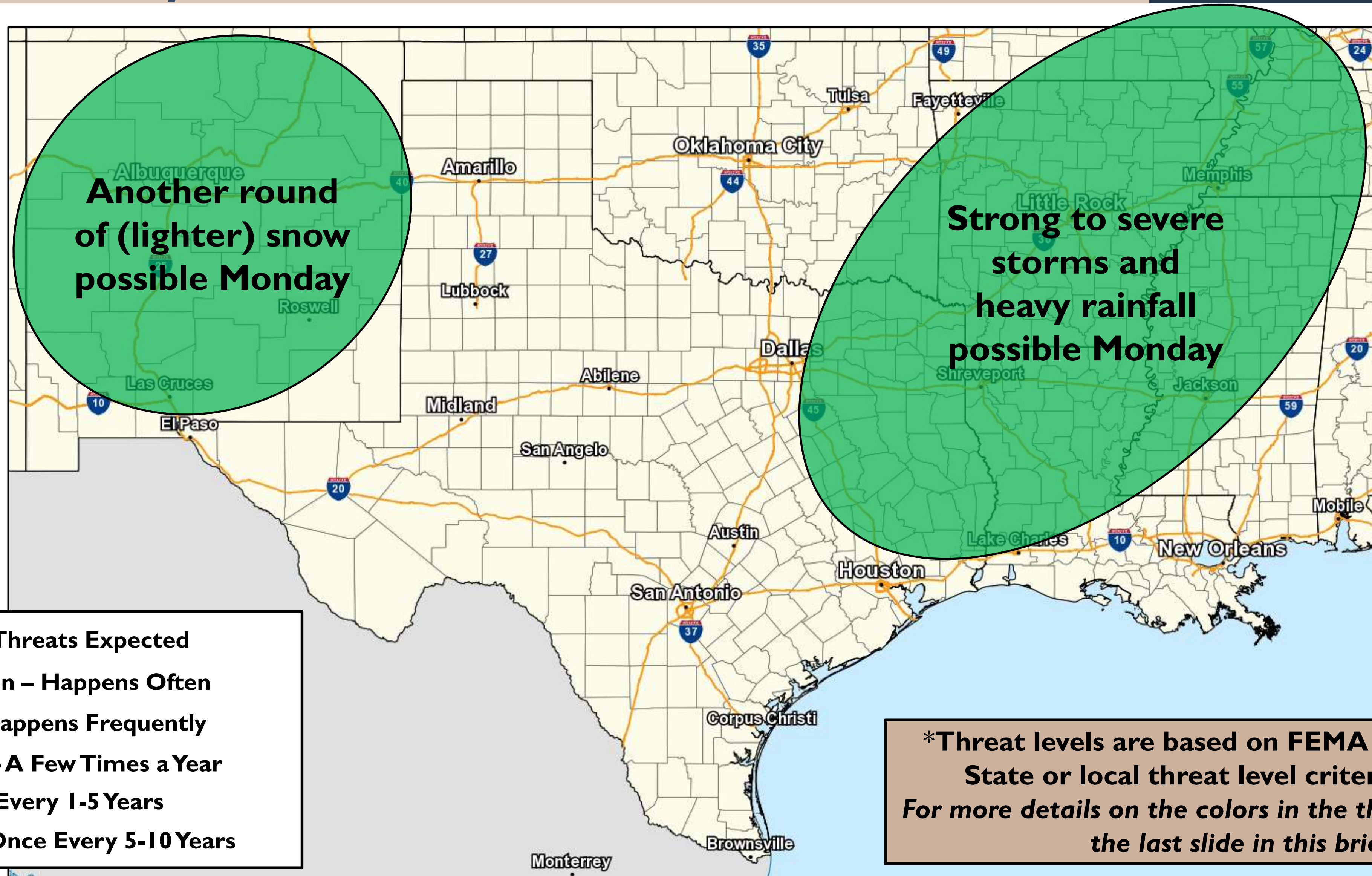


Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



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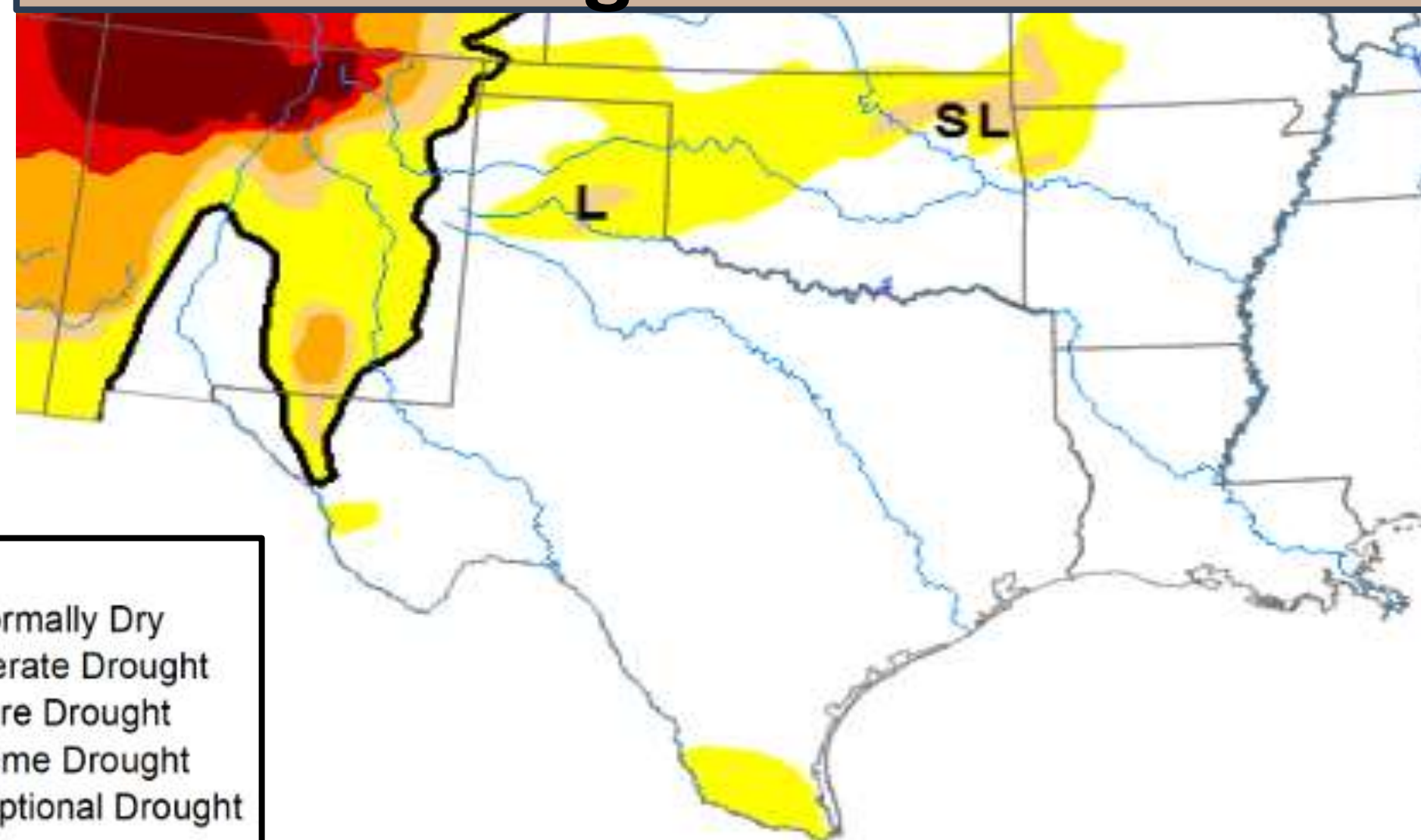
Drought Monitor (Released December 27, 2018)



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Data valid as of 7am EST, Tuesday, December 25, 2018

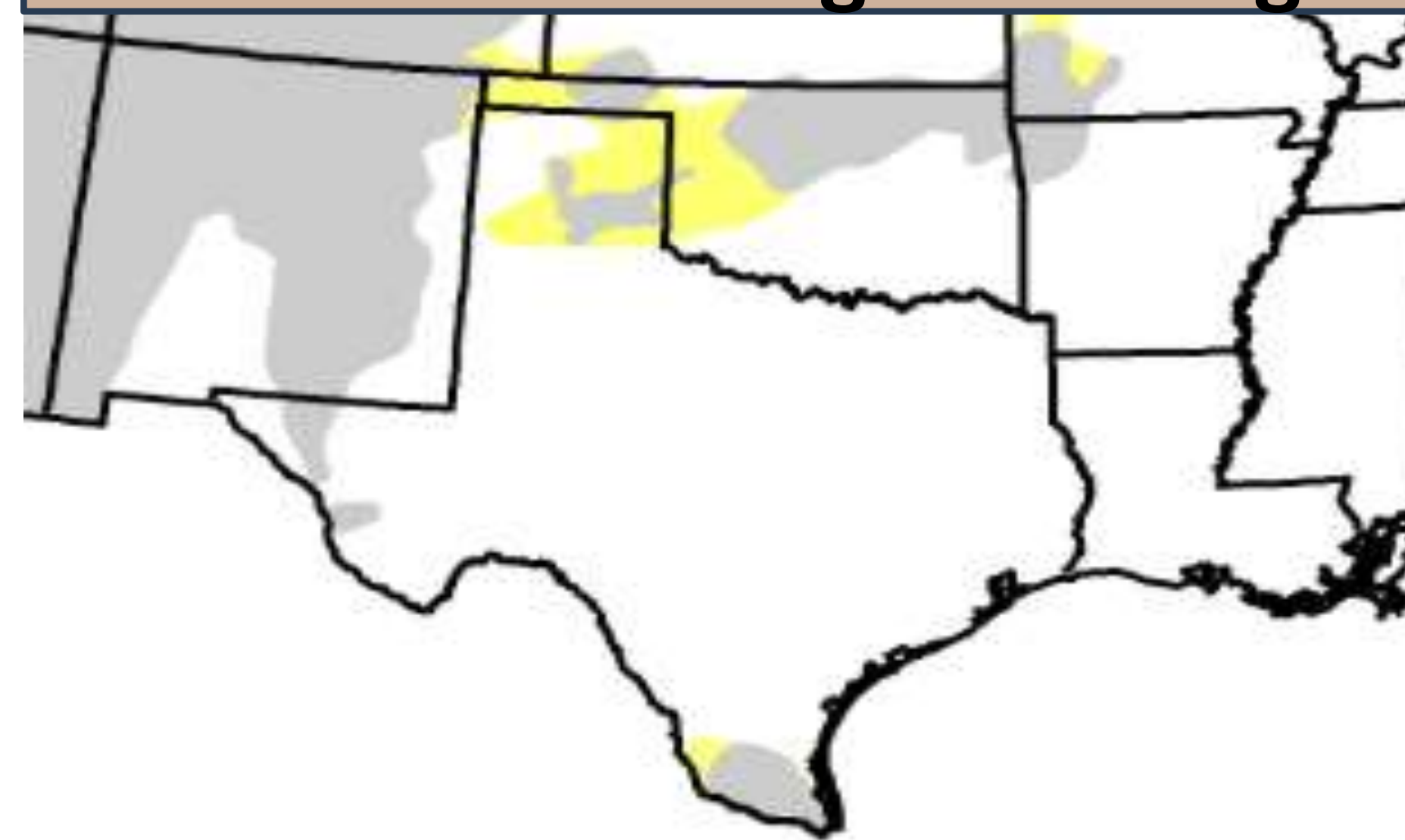
Drought Monitor



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

One Week Change in Drought



5 Class Degradation
4 Class Degradation
3 Class Degradation
2 Class Degradation
1 Class Degradation
No Change
1 Class Improvement
2 Class Improvement
3 Class Improvement
4 Class Improvement
5 Class Improvement

Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

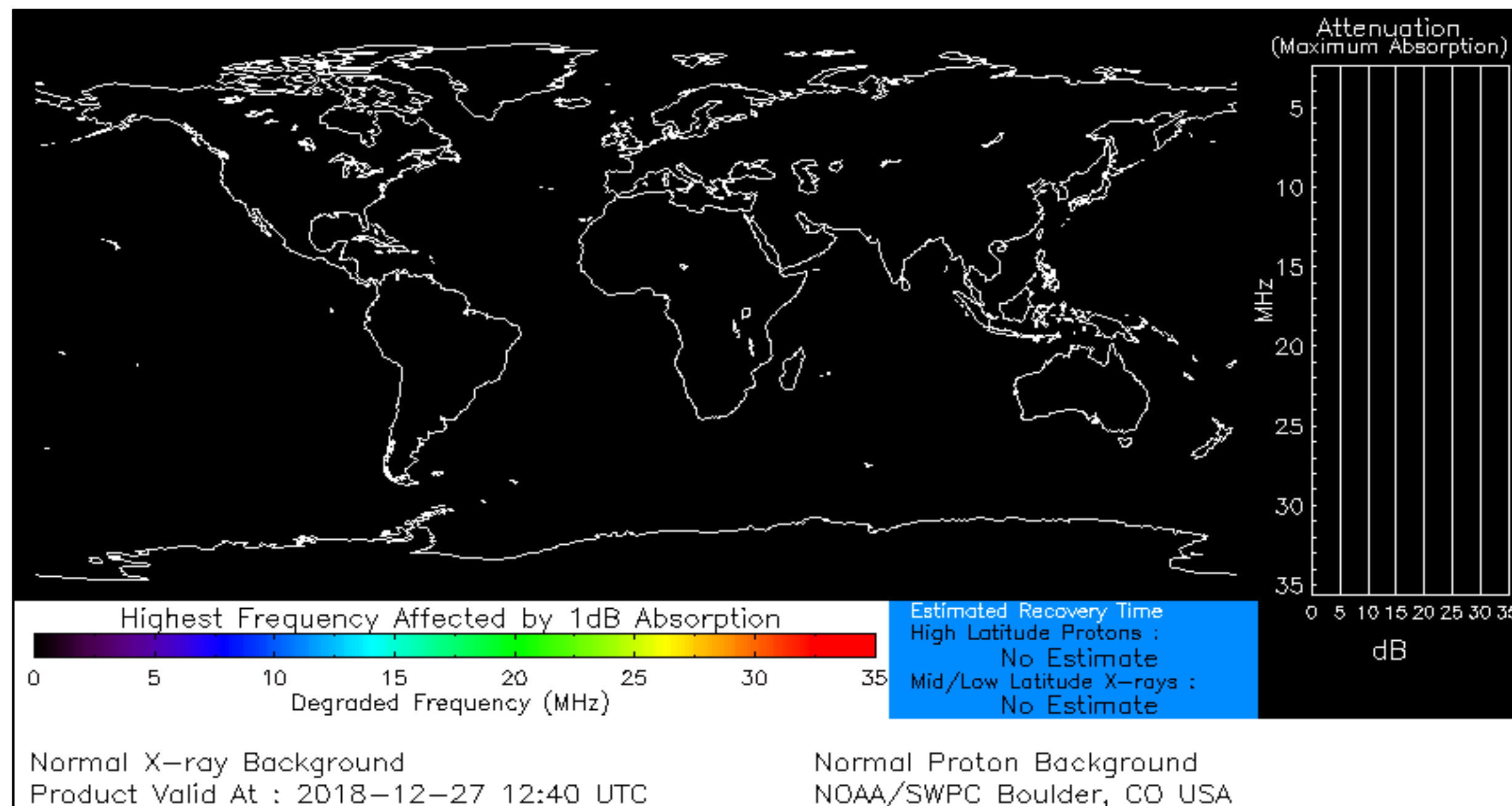
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.37%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.96%	0.11%
New Mexico	19.89%	19.89%	31.84%	0.00%

Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)



2018-12-27 11:58:00 UTC



For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov